

Patent Claims

1. A method for speech synthesis by means of a grapheme/phoneme conversion, in which
- 5 - a search is made for subwords of a given word in a database which contains phonetic transcriptions of words,
- at least one subword of the given word is found in the database,
- 10 - a phonetic transcription registered in the database is selected for the subword found,
- in addition to the subword found, the given word has at least one further constituent which is not registered in the database,
- 15 - this further constituent is phonetically transcribed with the aid of an OOV treatment, and
- the phonetic transcription of the subword found and the phonetic transcription of the further constituent are combined.
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2. The method for speech synthesis as claimed in claim 1, in which
- the OOV treatment for phonetic transcription of the further constituent is performed as a function
- 25 of the phonetic transcription of the subword found.
3. The method for speech synthesis as claimed in claim 1 or 2, in which
- 30 - a search is made for further subwords of the word found in the database,
- at least one further subword of the given word is found in the database,
- a phonetic transcription registered in the
- 35 database is selected for this further subword found, and
- the phonetic transcription of the subword found, the phonetic transcription of the further subword

found and the phonetic transcription of the further constituent are combined.

4. The method for speech synthesis as claimed in
5 claim 3, in which
- the further constituent in the given word is
arranged between the subword found and the further
subword found, and
- the OOV treatment for phonetic transcription of
10 the further constituent is performed as a function
of the phonetic transcription of the subword found
and the phonetic transcription of the further
subword found.
- 15 5. The method for speech synthesis as claimed in at
least one of the preceding claims, in which
- a search is made for subwords which have at
least one prescribed minimum length.
- 20 6. The method for speech synthesis as claimed in at
least one of the preceding claims, in which
- when a plurality of subwords are found for the
same word part, the longest subword is selected
therefrom.
- 25 7. The method for speech synthesis as claimed in at
least one of the preceding claims, in which
- the OOV treatment for phonetic transcription of
the further constituent is performed by means of a
30 neuron network.
8. The method for speech synthesis as claimed in at
least one of the preceding claims, in which
- the OOV treatment for phonetic transcription of
35 the further constituent is performed by means of a
rule-based method.

9. The method for speech synthesis as claimed in at least one of the preceding claims, in which
- the OOV treatment for phonetic transcription of the further constituent is performed by means of a second database which contains the phonetic transcription of filling particles normally used in the case of composite words.
10. An arrangement for speech synthesis by means of a grapheme/phoneme conversion, which is designed
- such that it is possible to make a search for subwords of a given word in a database which contains phonetic transcriptions of words,
 - such that at least one subword of the given word can be found in the database,
 - such that a phonetic transcription registered in the database can be selected for the subword found,
 - in addition to the subword found the given word has at least one further constituent, which is not registered in the database,
 - such that this further constituent can be phonetically transcribed with the aid of an OOV treatment, and
 - such that the phonetic transcription of the subword found and the phonetic transcription of the further constituent can be combined.
11. A computer program product for speech synthesis by means of a grapheme/phoneme conversion, in which during running on at least one processor unit
- a search is made for subwords of a given word in a database which contains phonetic transcriptions of words,
 - at least one subword of the given word is found in the database,
 - a phonetic transcription registered in the database is selected for the subword found,

- in addition to the subword found, the given word has at least one further constituent which is not registered in the database,
- this further constituent is phonetically transcribed with the aid of an OOV treatment, and
- the phonetic transcription of the subword found and the phonetic transcription of the further constituent are combined.